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he undoubtedly appeared in Washington in later life. President Roosevelt, especially, took a great fancy to him.

The Chief, so Mr. Carl told me, possessed in a degree remarkable even in an Indian the power of oratory; and this gift was exercised more than once to quiet the restlessness of the tribesmen. He was the white man's friend and his memory should be suitably honored.

I like the photograph of May-zhuc-ke-ge-shig which I presented to the Society some years ago better than the one you have reproduced in your December issue.

JOHN THOMAS LEE

Chicago

GENERAL PORTER AND GENERAL PARKER

In the article entitled "General Grant and Early Galena" in the September, 1919 issue of the *WISCONSIN MAGAZINE OF HISTORY* occurs an error which should not go uncorrected. I refer to Mr. Evans' statement that among the friends of Grant at Galena prior to the Civil War was "Colonel Porter, a West Point man, then superintending the erection of a postoffice at Galena"; and, further on, the statement that Porter, "who was partly of Oneida Indian blood," served as an officer on General Grant's staff in the Civil War. It will certainly surprise the many friends of General Porter, and General Porter himself, to learn that he is of "Oneida Indian blood" or in any way of Indian descent.

The mistake has probably arisen by confusing the name of Porter with that of General Ely S. Parker, who served with Porter on Grant's staff. General Parker was Grant's military secretary during the later portion of the Civil War and in this capacity made the first engrossed copy of the terms of capitulation of General Lee at Appomattox. He was an Indian, a Seneca, the son of a chief, and himself the last grand sachem of the Iroquois Confederacy.¹ He received an excellent education in the schools of New York and having become a civil engineer was in the employ of the federal government for several years prior to the war. In 1857 he was sent to Galena to superintend the construction of a customs house and a marine hospi-

¹ A life of General Parker has recently been published as Vol. XXIII of the *Buffalo Historical Society Publications*.—Ed.

tal; here he remained several years and here he made the acquaintance of Captain Grant, then employed in the family leather business at this place. The career of General Horace Porter is too well known to call for extended comment. He comes of a prominent Pennsylvania family (his father was twice governor of the state) of Irish origin. He graduated at West Point in 1860, like Parker served on Grant's staff, won distinction by his service, and like Parker served later as Grant's executive secretary. Unless Mr. Lacher made a mistake (a thing which the similarity of the names would readily account for) in reporting Mr. Evans' recollections, it seems evident that the latter in old age memory confused General Parker, whom he doubtless knew, with General Horace Porter.

J. S. ANDERSON

Manitowoc

THE PRESERVATION OF WISCONSIN'S FIRST CAPITOL

The state house at Old Belmont, which was moved from its original site across the public highway about thirty years ago and used for the main building of a barn, has been moved back to its former site and is now in process of restoration.

A bill was introduced in the Wisconsin legislature of 1917 asking for an appropriation to purchase two acres of land, including the site of the old capitol, move the building back to its former site, and restore it as nearly as possible to its original shape.

The bill asked for \$12,000; had this sum been appropriated, the park would have been enclosed with an appropriate fence, planted with trees, a care-taker's lodge erected, and such other improvements begun as would have made it one of the most attractive and interesting places in the state. But so much interest was being centered on the impending war that for a while it seemed doubtful whether any appropriation would be made. As finally passed the bill carried an appropriation of only \$3,000. This sum was so much less than had been asked for that the question of abandoning the project was seriously considered. But the Commission felt assured that if the work was begun and carried out as far as the money appropriated would allow, future legislatures would appropriate sufficient funds to carry out the plan originally intended.